Ner. How like you the young Germaine, the Duke of Saxonies nephew?

Por. Very vildly in the morning when hee is sober, and most videly in the afternoone when he is drunke: when he is best, he is a little worse then a man, and when he is worst he is little better then a beast, and the worst fall that ever fell, I hope I shall make shift to goe without him.

Ner. If he should offer to choose, and choose the right Casket, you should refuse to performe your Fathers will, if you should refuse to accept him.

Por. Therefore for feare of the worst, I pray thee set a deepe glasse of Reynish wine on the contrary Casket, for if the Devill be within, and that temptation without, I know he will choose it. I will doe any thing *Nerrissa* ere I will be married to a spunge.

Ner. You needs not feare Lady the having any of these Lords, they have acquainted me with their determinations, which is indeed to returne to their home, and to trouble you vvith no more sute, unlesse you may be wonne by some other sort then your Fathers imposition, depending on the Caskets.

Por. If I live to be old as *Sibilla*, I will die as chaste as *Diana*, unlesse I be obtained by the manner of my Fathers will: I am glad this parcell of woers are so reasonable, for there is not one among them but I doat on his very absence: and I pray God grant them a faire departure.

Ner. Doe you not remember Lady, in your Fathers time, a Venetian, a Scholler and a Souldier that came hither in company of the Marquesse of *Mountferrat*?

Por. Yes, yes, it was *Bassanio*, as I thinke so was he call'd.

Ner. True Madam, he of all the men that ever my foolish eies look'd upon, vvas the best deserving a faire Ladie.

Por. I remember him wel, & I remember him worthy of thy praise. How now, what newes?

Enter a Servingman.

Ser. The foure strangers seeke for you Madam, to take their leave: and there is a fore-runner come from a fift, the Prince of *Morocco*, who brings word the Prince his Master will be here to night.

Por. If I could bid the fift welcome with so good heart as I can

can bid the other foure farewell, I s
if he have the condition of a Saint, a
I had rather he should shrive me th
sirra goe before: whiles we shut t
ther knocks at the doore.

Enter Bassanio with

Shy. Three thousand Ducates, v
Bas. I sir, for three months.
Shy. For three months, well.
Bas. For the which as I told y
Shy. *Anthonio* shall be come b
Bas. May you sted me? Will y
Shall I know your ans
Shy. Three thousand Ducats fo
and *Anthonio* bound.
Bas. Your answer to that.
Bas. Have you heard any impu
Shy. Ho no, no, no, no: my m
man, is to have you understand m
meanes are in supposition: he hath
another to the *Indies*, I understand
hath a third at *Mexico*, a fourth fo
he hath squandred abroad, but Shi
men, there be land Rats, and wa
land Theeves, I meane Pyrats, an
ters, vvindes, and Rockes: the m
ent; three thousand Ducats, I think
Bas. Be assur'd you may.
Iew. I will be assur'd I may: a
bethinke me, may I speake with
Bas. If it please you to dine v
Iew. Yes, to smell Porke, to ea
Prophet the Nazarit conjured the
sell with you, talke with you, wa
but I will not eate with you, drin
What newes on the *Rialto*, who
Bas. This is signior *Anthonio*.
Iew. How like a fawning pu

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